

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the above -identified application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 6-15, without prejudice to renewal.

(Original) 1. A method for at least reducing the mineral content of a vascular calcified lesion, said method comprising:

maintaining the local environment of said calcified lesion at a subphysiologic pH for a period of time sufficient for the mineral content of said calcified lesion to be reduced;
whereby the mineral content of said calcified lesion is reduced.

(Original) 2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the local environment of said calcified lesion is maintained at a subphysiologic pH by introducing an acidic dissolution fluid into said local environment.

(Original) 3. The method according to Claim 2, wherein said introducing comprises flushing said calcified lesion with said dissolution fluid.

(Original) 4. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said method further comprises applying energy to said calcified lesion in a manner sufficient to breakup said lesion into particles.

(Original) 5. The method according to Claim 4, wherein said method further comprises rendering said local environment substantially bloodless.

~~6-15~~ Canceled

(Original) 16. A system for flushing a vascular tissue site with a dissolution fluid, said system comprising:

(a) a catheter comprising an acidic dissolution fluid introduction lumen capable of delivering fluid to said vascular tissue site and a fluid removal lumen capable of removing fluid and lesion debris from said vascular tissue site, wherein said catheter is in fluid communication with an acidic dissolution fluid source;

(b) a first pumping means operatively linked to said fluid introduction lumen in a manner sufficient such that said first pumping means forces fluid out of the distal end of said fluid introduction lumen; and

(c) a second pumping means operatively linked to said fluid removal lumen in a manner sufficient such that said second pumping means sucks fluid into the distal end of said fluid removal lumen.

(Original) 17. A kit for at least reducing the mineral content of a vascular calcified lesion, said kit comprising:

a fluid capable of locally increasing the proton concentration in the region of said calcified lesion.

(Original) 18. The kit according to Claim 17, wherein said kit further comprises instructions for practicing the method of Claim 1.



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Address to: Box Patent Applications Assistant Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA	Attorney Docket	CORA-001CIP2CON2
	First Named Inventor	Brent R. Constantz
	Application Number	10/623,113
	Filing Date	07/18/2003
	Group Art Unit Conf. No.	3728 4453
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
	Title	Methods and Devices for Reducing the Mineral Content of Vascular Calcified Lesions

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is submitted in advance of prosecution on the merits.